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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DIA Proposal For a Joint CIA/DIA Research Facility

1. DIA proposes to establish a research activity directed at the improvement of the intelligence process. This activity would seek to establish a facility which would give them a research capability in at least 3 basic directions at the outset. First, the facility should provide a laboratory environment into which they could introduce intelligence production and processing problems, seek to understand these processes better and provide a means of experimental altering of these activities to make them more productive and more rewarding. Second, the facility should provide a means for developing computer simulations of complex problems which are too expensive or too unreal to reproduce in the laboratory environment. Third, the facility should provide the means for producing general research studies on relatively unique activities in the intelligence community environment which would lead to better understanding, better operational practice and better management of these activities.

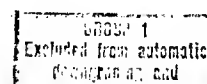
2. DIA has funded a start on this program for FY 1968 and is suggesting alternative avenues for establishment of this facility. One of the proposed avenues is to establish the facility under the DCI as a Joint CIA-DIA research facility incorporating it into a part (or all) of the ORD/AND facility which has recently been created in this Agency. A third alternative would be for DOD/DDR&E to create this sort of effort by contracting out to a non-profit organization created for this and/or related purposes, to a university or a private research facility.

3. DIA clearly thinks that it will receive an optimum return from keeping such a facility in the intelligence community. They want an applied

DIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND RELEASE.

DIA review(s) completed

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research effort that is closely focused on the intelligence process operated by people who understand the process intimately even as they bring a number of different disciplines to apply to the analysis of this process. DIA believes that if the activity is removed from the intelligence community it will be far more expensive to operate and produce little in the way of direct assistance to the sponsoring organization.

4. DIA has carefully thought through their objectives in this type of facility. They have consulted a wide range of people who are operating in parallel types of research activities. They have obtained good advice and give evidence that they will follow it.

5. Discussion of the mission of a joint DIA-CIA facility has more frequently centered on the use of such a facility for the development of future automatic data processing activity. Indeed ORD/AND's mission was largely built around an improved capability to respond in a rapidly changing information collection and processing environment. The present DIA proposal presents a rather minor role for such activity. Should we presume that this is in fact the role that they foresee for ADP or should we assume that the general reference to ADP activity more nearly reflects their interest?

6. The questions to which we must address ourselves at this point are:

a) Does the DIA proposal for an intelligence research activity approach or complement our own activity in ORD/AND closely enough that the DCI would be prepared to combine these activities under a community umbrella and operate them as a joint facility?

b) Are there activities in ORD/AND that would have to be removed and placed elsewhere if the DCI were to agree to provide a community research facility?

c) Does the DCI want to commit resources to an activity of this sort irrespective of the parochial interests involved? The obverse irrespective of the potential benefits involved.

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7. If the DCI is prepared to sponsor a joint research facility, we must quickly develop an outline of the management arrangements under which it would be presented.

8. Finally the DCI, if he approved, would only offer an alternative system of organizing this research. His offer might well be refused.



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Chief, Information Processing Staff

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